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Brief Summary of Country Debts.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for any opinions expressed in this Summary; as all the notices are either collated from the local papers, or supplied to us by occasional correspondents.

ARKSEY.—On Tuesday evening, the 16th ult., a successful Concert was given in the School Room by Mr. Eyre (Director of the Doncaster Choral Union), assisted by Miss Robinson, Miss Mortimer, Mr. T. Carbert, and Mr. G. Carbert. The attendance was good, and the performance gave the greatest satisfaction, Mr. Eyre's buffo singing being specially admired.

BIRMINGHAM.—Master J. C. Andrews gave a Pianoforte Recital in the Music Hall on the 29th October, assisted by Miss Galloway (soprano), before a respectable audience. Master Andrews, who is but thirteen years of age, played with considerable power and expression the following compositions:—Mozart's Sonata in E, op. 6. Beethoven's Rondo (No. 1), op. 51, and his Sonata in A flat, and Handel's "Harmonious Blacksmith," besides two other popular pieces. He was rewarded by one encore and by hearty applause throughout. Miss Galloway gave several solos with much effect, and was three times encoored. The main object of the concert, it was understood, was to raise funds to send the young pianist to Germany, for the completion of his studies. Mr. Franklin Haworth accompanied with much skill.

BIRMINGHAM.—A large audience was assembled in the Town Hall on the occasion of Mr. Locker's Concert on the 21st October. In every respect the performance was a thorough success; the choir (containing contingents from all the classes and choral unions under Mr. Locker's direction) singing the whole of the part-music with a delicacy and precision which reflected the highest credit upon their instructor. The principal solo vocalists were Mrs. Alfred Sutton Miss Alice Phillips, Mr. Robert Mason, and Mr. Henry Phillips; Mr. James Matthews (flute), Mr. Frederick Chatterton (harp), Mrs. Samuel Brame and Mr. C. S. Heap (pianoforte), lending valuable assistance in the instrumental department. Mr. Locker conducted the concert with much judgment and taste. The twelfth series of the Birmingham Chamber Concerts commenced on Thursday the 11th ult., before a numerous audience. The programme contained an excellent selection of classical music, all of which was most artistically interpreted by Messrs. H. Hayward, Ries and Wiener (Violins), T. W. Abbott (Viola), Herr Daubert (Violoncello), and C. E. Flavell (Pianoforte). The principal features of the concert were two string Quintets—one in E flat, by Beethoven, and one in G minor, by Mozart, both of which created a marked effect upon the audience. A duet, "La Gaité," by Chopin, admirably rendered by Mr. Flavell and Herr Daubert, was also received with much applause.

BLACKBURN.—St. John's Church, which has been for some time undergoing repairs, was re-opened during the past month. The organ has been entirely repaired, re-voiced, and enlarged by Messrs. C. and J. Whitely, organ builders, of Chester, the sole cost of the improvement having been defrayed by D. and J. Thwaites, Esqrs., two members of the congregation. On the 8th ult., an organ recital was given by Dr. Spark, when a programme was provided eminently calculated to display the capabilities of the instrument, and the well-known skill of the performer.

BLACKPOOL.—A selection of sacred and secular music was given in the New Assembly Rooms on the 8th ult. The vocalists were Miss Clelland, Messrs. Grime, Fisher and Stanton—accompanist, Mr. Grindrod. Miss Clelland sang "From mighty Kings," and an effective song by Dr. Hiles called "The Hebrew Mother," which was enthusiastically encoored. Mr. Fisher and Mr. Stanton were also highly successful—the former in "But Thou didst not leave," and the latter in "Thus saith the Lord." The second part of the concert comprised, amongst other pieces, a pianoforte duet, and "Joyous Life," by Miss Clelland (encoored). The concert was exceedingly well attended.

BURSLAM.—The Potteries Tonic Sol-fa Choristers opened their Concert-season on Tuesday evening, October 26th, with a performance (for the first time in the Potteries in its complete form) of Haydn's *Creation*. The Town Hall was filled with a highly respectable and appreciative audience. The principal vocalists were Miss Clelland, of Manchester; Mr. J. L. Kirby, and Mr. T. Brandon. Mr. C. A. Seymour led a full orchestra, including eleven of Mr. Hallé's band, and the principal local amateurs. Mr. H. Walker presided at the organ, and Mr. Powell was conductor. The local papers speak highly of the singing of Miss Clelland and Mr. Brandon, and they are unanimous in pronouncing that the band and chorus were alike excellent. The choristers intend to repeat the *Messiah* and *Samson* in the course of the season.

CLIFTON.—One of Mr. Daniel's series of Winter Entertainments was given in the large Hall of the Victoria Rooms on the 3rd ult. The vocalists were Madame Sherrington and her sister (Mdlle. José Sherrington), Mr. Nelson Varley, and Mr. and Mrs. Patey. The first part of the programme, selected from *Faust*, was the last scene of Act II. and the whole of Act III. The audience had thus the finest portion of the opera presented to them, and in a manner which amply compensated for the absence of acting and scenery. Madame Sherrington sang her music with much effect. Mrs. Patey was evidently suffering from cold, but in the slight part of Martha, which is almost confined to the third act, her singing was thoroughly good. Mr. Nelson Varley was in excellent voice, and his interpretation of the part of Faust was artistic throughout. Mephistopheles was intended for a heavier bass than Mr. Patey, who nevertheless was highly effective,

as was also Mdlle. José Sherrington, a young lady with a very fine soprano voice. In place of orchestra, M. Lemmens played on the Mustel organ, Mr. King Hall accompanying. The second part of the concert was miscellaneous.

DONCASTER.—On the 8th ult., Mr. Eyre, Choirmaster of the Parish Church, gave his Annual Concert at the Guild-hall, which was attended by most of the principal families of the neighbourhood. The first part of the programme was entirely composed of sacred music, including several selections from Mendelssohn, and one or two from Handel. The principal vocalists were Miss Emmeline Mortimer (who was highly successful in the air, "O, rest in the Lord"), Miss Robinson, Messrs. Carbert and Eyre, and Masters Thornsbys and Laws. Mr. Eyre was much applauded in the stirring song "Arm, arm, ye brave," and also produced much effect in the second part (which was devoted to secular music) by his singing of the "Village Blacksmith," for which he received a hearty encore. The performance of Mr. Robinson (of Hull), on the slide trumpet was also a distinctive feature in the concert.

EDGWARE.—A Concert in connection with the "Penny Readings" took place on the 27th October, in the large room near the Great Northern Railway Station. The principal vocalists were Miss Jessie Kusel, Miss Gibson, Miss Drury, Messrs. Cleavland, Holdom, Terry and Ball. The performance was highly successful, several pieces being encoored. The conductor was Mr. J. A. Drage.

EDINBURGH.—At the annual meeting of the Edinburgh University Musical Society, held in the Music Class-room, Park Place, on the 11th ult., the chairman (Professor Christison) warmly congratulated the members upon the success which had hitherto attended the Society, and expressed a hope that amongst the new arrivals in the University there would be found many students able and willing to join the association. The Treasurer submitted a highly favourable report to the meeting, and acknowledged with much satisfaction a donation of five guineas from Professor Oakeley. After the report had been adopted, the Committee for next year was elected—Professors Christison and Oakeley being appointed Presidents, and Professors MacLagan and Crawford Vice-Presidents.

ERDINGTON.—The Committee of the Erdington Institute gave the first concert for the present season on the 11th ult., at the Public Hall. The principal vocalists were Miss Rigby and Mr. Hateley, who gave several solos with much success; the lady (a sister of the well-known tenor, Mr. Vernon Rigby) displaying an excellent soprano voice and good style of singing. The Institute class gave a selection of part music with much effect; and the Erdington brass band made a very successful *début* on the occasion. The performance was most ably conducted by Mr. T. G. Locker.

EXMOUTH.—On the 29th October, at the conclusion of the regular weekly practice of the members of the Harmonic Society, at Manchester House, a testimonial was presented to Mr. W. Vinnicombe, the conductor, in the form of an exquisitely embellished electro-plated tea pot, coffee pot, and sugar basin. Mr. J. Melluish, treasurer to the Society, presented the testimonial on behalf of the committee, with a brief and appropriate address. Mr. Vinnicombe was taken by surprise, and, in accepting the testimonial, warmly thanked the committee, assuring them that he should continue to do all in his power for the interests of the Society, and to advance the science of music among its members to the very best of his ability.

FARNBOROUGH, HANTS.—Two concerts were given here on the 9th and 15th ult., by the members of the Farnborough Church Choir. The programme on each occasion consisted of a varied selection of solos, duets, part-songs, &c. Mrs. and the Misses Longman and Sir Arthur Mackworth, Bart., kindly assisted the choir with much effect. Conductor, Mr. Kinke.

GODSTONE.—A Choral Festival and Harvest Thanksgiving Service was lately held in the Church. A full choral service was performed by the various choirs of the neighbourhood (numbering upwards of one hundred voices) with much devotional feeling. Precentor, the Rev. G. T. Hoare, rector; organist, Mr. Kinke. After the service, Mr. Kinke, at the request of several of the congregation, performed a selection of pieces on the organ.

GRANTHAM.—An interesting concert was given in this town on the 18th ult., by Mr. H. P. Dickinson's Choir. The first part consisted of Mozart's *First Mass*, the choruses in which were well sustained, and the general execution denoted a thorough appreciation of the beauties of the work. The second part comprised some excellent ballads, part-songs, and instrumental music, which were very creditably executed. Mr. G. H. Porter, Organist of Louth Parish Church, presided at the harmonium. The proceeds were devoted to a new Organ Fund for St. John's Church, Grantham.

GREENWICH.—The Saturday Evening Concerts, under the direction of Mr. W. Hunt, continue to be very successful. The vocalists on the 20th ult., were Miss Edith Harland, Miss M. Usher, Mr. G. S. Graham, Mr. Farquarson, and Mr. F. H. Bridge. Mr. S. H. Hill was the accompanist.

HOUNSLOW.—A Concert was given in the Town Hall, on Thursday the 28th Oct., by the members of the Hounslow Sacred Choral Society, under the conductorship of Chas. J. Cross, Esq. The programme consisted of Mozart's *Twelfth Mass* and the first half of *The Messiah*. The solos were sung by Mrs. R. Limpus, Miss Cozens, Mr. Brewster and Mr. C. I. Cross, all of whom acquitted themselves in a very praise worthy manner. Mrs. Limpus in

"Rejoice greatly," and Mr. Cross in "Thus saith the Lord" deserve especial mention. The choruses and accompaniments were executed in excellent style throughout. The accompanists were Mr. F. W. Hidden (Pianoforte), and Mr. W. F. Sheppard (Harmonium). The audience, which filled the hall to overflowing, appeared greatly delighted with the performance; and the concert was a complete success.

ILKLEY, YORKSHIRE.—The first of a series of concerts was given by the students of Ilkley College, on the 8th ult., under the direction of the Principal, E. Sewell, M.A. The programme contained a well-chosen selection of part-songs, by Mendelssohn, Hatton and Barnby, with piano solos, duets and songs. "The Death of Nelson," was rendered with much effect by Mr. Sewell; and a violin solo, of De Beriot's, was delicately executed by Mr. H. B. Sewell. The members of the College choir acquitted themselves most creditably, several of their pieces being re-demanded. The large School-room of the College was filled with the *élite* of the district, who all appeared delighted with the concert. Mrs. Sewell accompanied the vocal music with taste and judgment. The Rev. J. Snowden, the vicar, expressed the thanks of the guests to Mr. Sewell, and complimented him on the excellence of the performance.

JERSEY.—The new Church in Royal Crescent, which has recently been erected on the site of the Old Jersey Theatre, was opened on the 21st Oct., a congregation of about 2,000 persons being present on the occasion. The organ, which is a very magnificent one, combines all the latest improvements; the diapason, forming the front, is very richly decorated. The organ itself contains 17 stops; but from the arrangement, would appear to contain more. It has been built at the firm of Allen & Co., 114, Euston-road, and has given the greatest satisfaction. The services were conducted by Revds. Moyres, Dymond (resident ministers), Revd. Bourne (President of the connexion from London), Revds. Labdon, Lemon, Holland and several others from various denominations in the Island.

LANDPORT.—The well-arranged programme, for the performance of which Mr. Fleming succeeded in bringing together a band and chorus of 100 performers, attracted, on Tuesday evening, the 26th October, an audience that filled every nook and corner of Clarence-street Chapel, the proceeds being devoted to the funds of that place of worship. The well-organised choir, aided by an excellent orchestra, did ample justice to the familiar, but difficult, choruses of Handel's master-piece, *The Messiah*. The solo vocalists were Miss Fuller, Miss Harris, Messrs. Kiel, Scott, Stephens, and Howe, all of whom were highly efficient in the music allotted to them. The *diapason normal* was the pitch used at this concert. Mr. Fleming is deserving of the greatest commendation for the very successful manner in which the entire performance was conducted.

LEEDS.—Madlle. Christine Nilsson created an extraordinary effect at her first concert on the 3rd ult., the grand *scena* from Ambroise Thomas's *Hamlet* (popularly known as the "mad scene," having been received by the audience with the utmost enthusiasm. She has also been singing with equal success in selections from the *Creation* and the *Messiah*. The choruses were well given by the Leeds Madrigal Society. Mr. Sims Reeves sang in his best style, and Madlle. Drasdil and Signor Foli were also thoroughly successful. Dr. Spark presided at the organ, and played the "Pastoral Symphony" in the *Messiah* extremely well.

LIVERPOOL.—Mr. T. J. Hughes' Annual Concert was given at the Institute, Mount Street, on Friday, 22nd October, with much success. The first part consisted of a Cantata, by J. Thomas (Pencroft Gwalia), *The Bride of Neath Valley*. Principal vocalists, Miss Elsie Clifford, Miss Fanny Armstrong, Mr. S. Allen Jones, and Mrs. T. J. Hughes. Harp accompaniment, Mr. Streather; Organ, Mr. T. Welch; Pianoforte, Mr. W. Roberts and Mr. Skeaf; Chorus, The Birkenhead Cambrian Choral Society; Conductor, Mr. W. Parry. In the second part Mr. Welch played Mendelssohn's Organ Sonata (No. 4). Miss Fanny Armstrong, in Sullivan's song, "Will he come?" Mr. Hughes, in Mr. Brinley Richards's new song, "The Cambrian Plume;" and Mr. Armstrong, in a Serenade by Balfe, were highly effective. Two Duets by Mendelssohn were also excellently sung by the Misses Phillips.—On Wednesday evening, the 3rd ult., Miss Helena Fielding gave her second annual Concert at the small Concert Room, St. George's Hall, under the patronage of his worship the Mayor and other distinguished gentlemen. She was assisted by Miss Elsie Clifford, Mr. Busfield, Mr. W. Neale, Mr. Atherton, and Mr. T. J. Hughes. vocalists; Mr. Lionel Hargrave, solo violin; and Mr. W. H. Jude, Conductor. Mr. T. J. Hughes sang, with much expression, Franz Kelsner's song, "The Slave," which was encored. Miss Elsie Clifford was very successful in Meyerbeer's "Fisher Maiden," and Miss Fielding sang two songs and played two pianoforte solos with good effect. De Beriot's first concerto, for violin and pianoforte, performed by Mr. Lionel Hargrave and Mr. W. H. Jude, was much admired.—The eighth Concert of the Philharmonic Society for the present season took place on the 9th ult. The principal work performed was Beethoven's *Pastoral Symphony*. The overture to *Semiramide* and the *Midsummer Night's Dream*, were also given with much effect. The vocal portion of the Concert was sustained by Madame Vanzini, the "London Glee and Madrigal Union," and the choral members of the Philharmonic Society. The concert room is too large to do justice to the delicate harmony of the Glee Union, nevertheless two of their exquisitely finished performances were encored. A new cradle

song, by Randegger, accompanied by pianoforte, viole, and violoncello, was received, as it deserved, with much applause; and was excellently interpreted by Madame Vanzini and her accompanists.—The ninth Subscription Concert (for the year 1869) of the Philharmonic Society took place on the 23rd ult., the principal artists being Madlle. Christine Nilsson, Madlle. Drasdil, Signor Gardoni, and Signor Foli. In this concert, the chief vocal interest was excited by the wonderful declamation of Madlle. Nilsson in the great "Ophelia" scene, from Ambroise Thomas's opera of *Hamlet*; but Madlle. Drasdil sang very finely a song by Benedict "I murmur not," and, with Signor Gardoni, the *Troatore* duet, "Si la stanchezza m' opprime." Signor Foli was highly successful in his songs: and Madlle. Nilsson and Signor Gardoni sang a duet from *Ernani* most charmingly. The principal instrumental work was Haydn's ever welcome Sinfonia No. 10 in E flat, which went excellently, as did also Cherubini's overture to *Medea*, and Weber's to *Preciosa*. The choral members of the Society gave two very agreeable part-songs, "In this hour," by Piusini; and "Parting gleams," by Sullivan, as well as the "Hunting Chorus" from Haydn's *Seasons*.

LYNN.—On Friday, the 19th ult., the Philharmonic Society gave the first Concert of the present season. The first part of the programme contained "The Hallelujah," from Beethoven's *Engedi*, and Weber's *Mass in G*. The second part was a miscellaneous selection of secular music. Miss Robertine Henderson was the principal soprano, and Mr. W. B. Ling, of Peterborough Cathedral, the tenor.

MALVERN.—The Choral Society, with a full band, numbering upwards of sixty performers, gave its first concert on the 15th ult. The selection of music was of a much higher order than has been the rule here; and the interpretation of it was highly creditable. All the instrumental and vocal performers were local. Mr. Langdon (who organised the scheme) conducted, and Mrs. Langdon and Mr. Haynes accompanied.

MANCHESTER.—The Cheetham Town Hall Subscription Concerts commenced on the 1st ult. The first part of the programme consisted of sacred music, and included, "Then round about," the air, "Return, O God of Hosts," (well sung by Miss Tomlinson) and the chorus "To dust his glory." Dr. Henry Hiles' new song "The Hebrew Mother," was also given by Miss Clelland with much pathos. The second part consisted of part-songs, choruses, duets, and songs. The chorus consists of about 40 or 50 well-trained voices, conducted by Mr. Henry Walker.

MORLEY.—On Saturday evening, the 6th ult., a Musical Entertainment, entitled "A Leisure Hour," was given at the Temperance Hall, by Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Ryder. The programme was selected from various operas, and also included airs from the *Creation*. The Hall was well attended. Mr. and Mrs. Ryder were highly successful in their vocal solos, some of which were unanimously encored. The Concert gave much satisfaction to all present.

NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT.—Mr. J. L. Mew, R.A.M., gave the first Concert of the season at the Volunteer Drill Hall, on the 2nd ult., which was very fashionably attended. Amongst the concerted instrumental pieces, calling for the greatest amount of praise, were Beethoven's trio in G (exceedingly well played by Messrs. Mew, J. L. Gubbins, and the Revd. W. H. Nutter,) and Schumann's Quintet, (Messrs. Mew, Gubbins, Way, Pring, and J. L. Read). Mr. Mew also played with much brilliancy Weber's "Concertstück," with orchestral accompaniments, and Leybach's *Sonnambula*. The Revd. W. H. Nutter sang "Non e ver," in a most artistic manner, and Mr. Roche was enthusiastically encored in the "Death of Nelson." Miss Christian, R.A.M., sang splendidly, and was encored in each of her songs.

NEWPORT (MON.).—A Subscription Concert, under distinguished patronage, was given at the Victoria Hall, on the 4th ult., the commodious building being well filled. The services of Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Mdle. José Sherrington, Madame Patey, Messrs. Nelson Varley, Patey, Chevalier Lemmens, and Mr. King Hall were secured. A selection from Gounod's *Faust*, with several songs, ballads, &c., was very well rendered and received. Mr. Hall was Pianist, and Chevalier Lemmens won a hearty recall for his solo upon the Mustel Organ.

PECKHAM.—Mr. Charles E. Fry's New Entertainment, "An Evening with Shakespeare," was again given with great success on the 25th ult., at St. Mary's College. Mr. Fry's most successful efforts were, as before, the "Closet Scene" from *Hamlet*, and a Scene with Falstaff, from *Henry IV.*, in both of which he was warmly applauded. Madame Emmeline Cole sang "Orpheus with his lute," with great refinement and expression, and, upon being recalled, substituted "Where the bee sucks," with even greater success. Mr. Stedman sang "Sigh no more, ladies," with much feeling; and Mr. Beale was very successful in "O mistress mine." Mr. Albert Lowe played an Overture, and Mendelssohn's "Wedding March," with much effect, and also accompanied with considerable delicacy.

PLUMSTEAD.—On the 16th ult., an excellent concert was given in the large Central School, in aid of the Organ Fund of St. Margaret's (Parish) Church. The principal vocalists were Miss Blanche Reeves, Miss Philpine Siedle, Miss Julie Siedle, Mr. Strangward, and Mr. Hammond; accompanists, Miss Mascall and Mr. Kettle, organist of the church. Miss Reeves sang with much effect the aria "With verdure clad," and was encored in her songs in the second part. The Misses Siedle and Mr. Strangward were

also highly successful in all their solo music, and Mr. Hammond received much applause for his rendering of "The Village Blacksmith," with harmonium accompaniment, by Mr. Kettle. Several part-songs were given by the choir, the "Marche aux Flambeaux," was well played, as a duet for pianoforte and harmonium, by Miss Mascall and Mr. Kettle; and the concert ended with Haydn's comic trio "Maiden Fair," capitably sung by Messrs. Mells, Strangward and Davies.

PLYMOUTH.—The Plymouth Amateur Vocal Association commenced its third season on the 27th October, with a Concert of great and varied interest. The principal attraction of the programme was Professor Sterndale Bennett's *May Queen*, the solo vocalists in which were Madame Florence Lancia, Mr. Vernon Rigby, and Mr. Orlando Christian. The work was exceedingly well performed. Madame Lancia, in the air, "With the Carol in the Tree," Mr. Vernon Rigby, in "Why do you cruelly frown on and fly me?" and Mr. Christian, in "Tis jolly to hunt," being especially successful. The choruses were carefully and effectively given, the sopranos telling out with much brilliancy in "Wake with a smile, O month of May," with which the Cantata opens. The Second Part was miscellaneous, and included several solos for the vocalists already named, some of which were encored. Mr. F. N. Löhr conducted with much ability, Mr. Henry Reed led the band, and Mr. Hannaford made an excellent accompanist at the Pianoforte.

READING.—The new Operetta by Mr. Birch, *Eveleen, the Rose of the Vale*, was produced on the 21st October, at the Town Hall, with complete success. A local paper speaks in the highest terms of the merit of the music. The principal vocalists were Miss Fanny Heywood, Mr. W. Hawley, and Mr. Theodore Distin. Mr. Birch conducted his own composition, the reception of which would justify the hope that at no very distant period the work may be heard upon the stage.

SALISBURY.—The Members of the "Sarum Choral Society" have presented Mr. J. E. Richardson, the Cathedral Organist, with a handsome silver teapot, bearing a suitable inscription, in recognition of the valuable services he has rendered the Society as conductor, a post he has honourably occupied for a period of twenty years, and from which he has just retired.

SHEFFIELD.—The musical season opened here on the 1st ult., with the first of a series of orchestral concerts, given by Mr. Freemantle, in the Music Hall. The programme contained some choice orchestral and concerted pieces of different schools and periods, combined with some excellent vocal music. The band, which consisted chiefly of members of Mr. Charles Hallé's orchestra, was throughout the evening most efficient. Mr. Iles was leader, and delighted the audience by his rendering of the Andante and Rondo Russe, from De Beriot's second concerto. Miss Parkes also did ample justice to the solo parts allotted to her. The vocal portion of the programme was ably sustained by Miss Vinta. The attendance was numerous. On the 11th ult., the Sheffield Choral Union gave the first of a series of Oratorios in the Music Hall. The work chosen on the occasion was *Elijah*. The principals were Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Miss Sherrington, Mrs. Patey, Mr. Nelson Varley, and Mr. J. Patey, and the Oratorio was directed by Mr. R. S. Burton, the able conductor of the Society, Mons. Lemmens officiating as organist. The members of the Union rendered the choruses with much precision and effect. The Concert was a great success, many persons being unable to obtain admission.

SLOUGH.—A Concert was given at the Literary Institute on the 1st ult. Miss Mabel Brent, Mr. Booth, Mr. Mellor, and Mr. Christian were very effective in several vocal solos; and Messrs. Darby, Peach, and Ogilvy gave valuable aid in the glees and part-songs. Some of the "Orpheus" glees were exceedingly well rendered. Mr. Edmund Rogers, of Holy Trinity, Windsor, was the accompanist.

SOUTHAMPTON.—A very excellent concert was lately given by Mr. Ellis Roberts, the well-known harpist at the Hartley Hall, before an inconveniently crowded assembly. Mr. Roberts was assisted by Miss Glanville and Miss Newton, who gave several vocal solos with much effect. As may be expected, the great feature of the evening was the harp playing of Mr. Roberts, who was received in all his performances with the warmest applause, his second piece, "Recollections of Erin," displaying his talents with remarkable success.

SOUTH NORWOOD.—The Musical Society gave a successful performance of *Elijah* on Monday, the 15th ult., under the direction of Mr. W. J. Westbrook. Mr. Batten sang the part of the Prophet with much effect, although he was evidently suffering from hoarseness. The remaining parts were efficiently filled by Miss Susanna Cole, Miss Whitaker, Miss Laura Manvell, and Mr. Phillips. The choral music was excellently sung, the chain of Bael choruses, "Thanks be to God," "Be not afraid," and "He watching over Israel," being the most heartily appreciated of all the evening's pieces. The concert was thoroughly satisfactory and reflected the highest credit upon the Society.

STAFFORD.—A Concert in aid of the Staffordshire County Infirmary was given in the Shire Hall, on the 28th October. The artists engaged on the occasion were Miss Emily Smythe, Miss Anyon, Messrs. W. Coates and Brandon. The concert, which was well attended, was a decided success, a sum of nearly £90 having been handed over to the fund by R. Podmore, Esq., Mayor, who acted as treasurer. The Choral Society, which has not met for two seasons, has once more been organized, and promises to be quite

successful, Handel's *Messiah* being the work chosen for practice. Mr. Edwin Shargool is again the conductor, and Mr. Linter, leader. Some fifty members have been already enrolled, and many more are expected. It is anticipated that eventually a music-hall suitable for concert purposes will be provided, the town being limited to the Shire Hall, a building not at all adapted for the diffusion of sound.

ST. LEONARDS.—The magnificent structure known as St. Paul's Church was consecrated on the 21st October, by the Lord Bishop of Chichester. The service commenced with a Processional Hymn, "We love the place, O God," which was well sung by a full choir and about sixty clergymen. After the Chancellor had read the sentences of consecration, and the Bishop, having pronounced the work formally and legally done, had attached his signature to the deed, the choir and congregation chanted the 84th, 122nd and 132nd Psalms. The Anthem (the composition of Mr. Abrams, the organist) was followed by the "Hallelujah Chorus." Mr. Abrams' Anthem was extremely effective; and the duet with which it commences was given with much feeling by Messrs. Moore and James. The metrical Psalms were 84th and 100th, new version, sung to St. Stephen and Old Hundredth.

SYDNEY.—The Ninth Musical *Soirée* of the New South Wales Civil Service was given on the 7th September, at the Masonic Hall. The principal attraction in the programme was Barnett's Cantata, *The Ancient Mariner*, which, considering that most of the vocalists were amateurs, was excellently performed. It was scored for the Society's orchestra by Mr. Callen, who ably conducted the work. The first part contained a good selection of vocal music, all of which was most effectively rendered. The pianoforte accompaniments were played by Mr. Stanley. Mr. A. Anderson, a native pianist of merit, who recently returned from Europe, where he had been studying under Pauer and Dr. Bennett, has given an excellent concert at the School of Arts, under vice-regal patronage. The hall was filled to overflowing, and the playing of Mr. Anderson was much admired. Mr. John Hill also performed at this concert on the violin, and sustained his reputation as a musician of great attainments. The performance lately given by Mr. Fisher's choir was largely patronised. Rossini's grand *Mass* is in course of rehearsal by a number of local amateurs, under the directorship of Mr. Corder, who will have the credit of being the first to produce this work in Australia.

TRALEE.—The Tralee Amateur Musical Society inaugurated its autumn session with an interesting concert on the 3rd ult., in the Corn Exchange. An excellent programme was provided, and many of the pieces were performed in a manner which would have reflected credit on professional artists. The concert was opened with Arthur Sullivan's quartet, "O hush thee my babe." Special mention must be made of the singing of Master Bary Gilholy, who displayed a good voice, and was highly successful in all his vocal solos. Mr. Michael Butler (who possesses an excellent tenor voice), Mr. M'Grath, the Misses Smith and Miss Wallace are also worthy of commendation. The concert was conducted by Mr. Henry C. Gilholy (organist of Tralee Church), who deserves much credit for the state of efficiency to which he has brought the Choral Society under his direction.

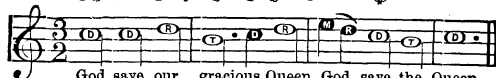
TRURO.—In consequence of the great success of Dr. Bennett's Cantata *The May Queen*, given at the recent Musical Festival here (conducted by Mr. H. G. Trembath, Mus. Bac., Oxon.) the members of the orchestra have, by general request formed themselves into a Society for the practice and performance of secular music. At the preliminary meeting, held on Monday evening, the 15th ult., it was decided that Barnett's *Ancient Mariner* should be given at the first concert.

WANSTEAD.—The second season of the Wanstead Musical Union commenced on the 8th ult., when the members met, at the residence of Alderman Finnis, to practise Dr. S. Bennett's *May Queen*. The hon. conductor is W. G. Brighton, Esq.

WINDSOR.—The Windsor and Eton Choral Society gave a performance of Haydn's *Creation*, in the Town Hall, on Monday evening the 22nd ult., under distinguished patronage. Miss Banks, Mr. T. Hunt and Mr. Orlando Christian were the principal artists, all of whom were highly successful in their various parts. "With verdure clad" (sung by Miss Banks), "In Native worth" (by Mr. Hunt), and "Now Heaven in fullest glory shone" (by Mr. Christian), were loudly applauded, as was also the duet, "Graceful Consort." The band and chorus of 70 performers, were under the direction of Dr. G. J. Elvey.

ORGAN APPOINTMENTS.—Mr. T. A. Burton, Organist of the Parish Church, Tetbury, to St. Peter's, Bournemouth. Mr. H. Golden Read, Organist and Choirmaster of All Saints', Newington, to St. Mary's, Southwark.

By Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent.



God save our gracious Queen, God save the Queen.

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London Agent—F. FITZMAN, 20 Paternoster Row.